

Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission
Report - March 2006

CHAPTER 3.1.1.

INFECTION WITH *BONAMIA OSTREAE*

Article 3.1.1.1.

For the purposes of the *Aquatic Code*, infection with *Bonamia ostreae* means infection only with *Bonamia ostreae*.

Methods for surveillance, diagnosis and confirmatory identification are provided in the *Aquatic Manual*.

Article 3.1.1.2.

Susceptible species Scope

The recommendations in this Chapter apply to ~~For the purposes of the *Aquatic Code*, susceptible species for infection with *Bonamia ostreae* are:~~ European flat oyster (*Ostrea edulis*), Australian mud oyster (*O. angasi*), Argentinean flat oyster (*O. puelchana*), Chilean flat oyster (*O. chilensis*), Asiatic oyster (*O. denselammellosa*) and Suminoe oyster (*Crassostrea ariakensis*). These recommendations also apply to any other susceptible species referred to in the *Aquatic Manual* when traded internationally.

To date, all species of the genus *Ostrea* (except *O. conchaphila*) exposed to *Bonamia ostreae* have been shown to be susceptible species. Therefore, all species of these genera should be regarded as potentially susceptible species.

Suspected cases, as defined in the *Aquatic Manual*, of infection with *Bonamia ostreae* in species other than those listed in this Article should be referred immediately to the appropriate OIE Reference Laboratory, whether or not clinical signs are associated with the findings.

Article 3.1.1.3.

Commodities

1. When authorising importation or transit of the following commodities, Competent Authorities should not require any *Bonamia ostreae* related conditions, regardless of the *Bonamia ostreae* status of the exporting country, zone or compartment:
 - a) From the species referred to in Article 3.1.1.2., for any purpose:
 - i) commercially-sterile canned or other heat treated products;
 - ii) gametes, eggs and larvae.
 - b) The following commodities destined for human consumption from the species referred to in Article 3.1.1.2. which have been prepared in such a way as to minimise the likelihood of alternative uses:

- i) chemically preserved products (e.g. smoked, salted, pickled, marinated, etc.);
 - ii) non commercially sterile heat treated products (e.g. ready prepared meals) that have been heat treated in a manner to ensure the inactivation of the parasite;
 - iii) off the shell (chilled or frozen) packaged for direct retail trade;
 - iv) half-shell (chilled).
- c) All *commodities* from *Crassostrea gigas*, *C. virginica*, *Ruditapes decussatus*, *R. philippinarum*, *Mytilus galloprovincialis* and *M. edulis*, including the live *aquatic animal*.

For the *commodities* referred to in point 1)b), Member Countries should consider introducing internal measures to prevent the *commodity* being used for any purpose other than for human consumption.

2. When authorising importation or transit of the *commodities* of a species referred to in Article 3.1.1.2., other than *commodities* referred to in point 1) of Article 3.1.1.3., *Competent Authorities* should require the conditions prescribed in Articles 3.1.1.7. to 3.1.1.11. relevant to the *Bonamia ostreae* status of the *exporting country*, *zone* or *compartment*.
3. When considering the importation or transit of any other *commodity* from bivalve species not referred to in Article 3.1.1.2. (especially those of the genus *Ostrea*) nor in point 1)c) of Article 3.1.1.3, from an *exporting country*, *zone* or *compartment* not declared free of *Bonamia ostreae*, *Competent Authorities* of the *importing country* should conduct an analysis of the risk of introduction, establishment and spread of *Bonamia ostreae* and the potential consequences associated with importation of the *commodity*, prior to a decision. The outcome of this assessment should be made available to the *exporting country*. The *exporting country* should be informed of the outcome of this assessment.

Article 3.1.1.4.

***Bonamia ostreae* free country**

A country may make a self-declaration of freedom from *Bonamia ostreae* if it meets the conditions in points 1), 2), 3) or 4) below.

If a country shares a *zone* or *compartment* with one or more other countries, it can only make a self-declaration of freedom from *Bonamia ostreae* if all the areas covered by the shared water are declared *Bonamia ostreae* free zones (see Article 3.1.1.5.).

1. A country where none of the *susceptible species* species of the genus *Ostrea* is present may make a self-declaration of freedom from *Bonamia ostreae* when *basic biosecurity conditions* have been met continuously in the country for at least the past 2 years.

OR

2. A country where any species referred to in Article 3.1.1.2. are present but there has never

been any observed occurrence of the *disease* for at least the past 10 years despite conditions – in all areas where the species are present – that are conducive to its clinical expression, as described in Chapter 3.1.1. of the *Aquatic Manual*, may make a self-declaration of freedom from *Bonamia ostreae* when *basic biosecurity conditions* have been met continuously in the country for at least the past 2 years and infection with *Bonamia ostreae* is not known to be established in wild populations.

OR

3. A country where the last known clinical occurrence was within the past 10 years or where the infection status prior to *targeted surveillance* was unknown, for example because of the absence of conditions conducive to clinical expression, as described in Chapter X.X.X. of the *Aquatic Manual*, may make a self-declaration of freedom from *Bonamia ostreae* when:
 - a) *basic biosecurity conditions* have been met continuously for at least the past 2 years; and
 - b) *targeted surveillance* as described in Chapters 1.1.4. and X.X.X. of the *Aquatic Manual* has been in place for at least the past 2 years without detection of *Bonamia ostreae*.

OR

4. A country that has made a self-declaration of freedom from *Bonamia ostreae* but in which the disease is detected may not make a self-declaration of freedom from *Bonamia ostreae* again until the following conditions have been met:
 - a) on detection of the disease, the affected area was declared an *infected zone* and a *buffer zone* was established; and
 - b) infected populations have been safely destroyed or removed from the *infected zone* by means that minimise the risk of further spread of the disease, and the appropriate *disinfection* procedures (see *Aquatic Manual*) have been completed; and
 - c) *targeted surveillance*, as described in Chapters 1.1.4. and X.X.X. of the *Aquatic Manual*, has been in place for at least the past 2 years without detection of *Bonamia ostreae*.

In the meantime, one or more areas of the remaining territory may be declared free zones, part of the non-affected area may be declared a free zone provided that they meet the conditions in point 3) of Article 3.1.1.5.

Article 3.1.1.5.

***Bonamia ostreae* free zone or free compartment**

A *zone* or *compartment* free from *Bonamia ostreae* may be established within the *territory* of

one or more countries of infected or unknown status for infection with *Bonamia ostreae* and declared free by the *Competent Authority(ies)* of the country(ies) concerned, if the *zone* or *compartment* meets the conditions referred to in points 1), 2), 3) or 4) below.

If a *zone* or *compartment* extends over more than one country, it can only be declared a *Bonamia ostreae* free *zone* or *compartment* if the conditions outlined below apply to all areas of the *zone* or *compartment*.

1. In a country of unknown status for *Bonamia ostreae*, a *zone* or *compartment* where none of the susceptible species ~~species of the genus *Ostrea*~~ is present may be declared free from *Bonamia ostreae* when *basic biosecurity conditions* have been met continuously in the *zone* or *compartment* for at least the past 2 years.

OR

2. In a country of unknown status for *Bonamia ostreae*, a *zone* or *compartment* where any species referred to in Article 3.1.1.2. are present but there has never been any observed occurrence of the *disease* for at least the past 10 years despite conditions – in all areas where the species are present – that are conducive to its clinical expression, as described in Chapter X.X.X. of the *Aquatic Manual*, may be declared free from *Bonamia ostreae* when *basic biosecurity conditions* have been met continuously in the *zone* or *compartment* for at least the past 2 years and infection with *Bonamia ostreae* is not known to be established in wild populations.

OR

3. A *zone* or *compartment* where the last known clinical occurrence was within the past 10 years or where the infection status prior to *targeted surveillance* was unknown, for example because of the absence of conditions conducive to clinical expression, as described in Chapter X.X.X. of the *Aquatic Manual*, may be declared free from *Bonamia ostreae* when:
 - a) *basic biosecurity conditions* have been met continuously for at least the past 2 years; and
 - b) *targeted surveillance* as described in Chapters 1.1.4. and X.X.X. of the *Aquatic Manual* has been in place for at least the past 2 years without detection of *Bonamia ostreae*.

OR

4. A *zone* previously declared free from *Bonamia ostreae* but in which the disease is detected may not be declared free from *Bonamia ostreae* again until the following conditions have been met:
 - a) on detection of the disease, the affected area was declared an *infected zone* and a *buffer zone* was established; and

- b) infected populations have been safely destroyed or removed from the *infected zone* by means that minimise the risk of further spread of the disease, and the appropriate *disinfection* procedures (see *Aquatic Manual*) have been completed; and
- c) *targeted surveillance*, as described in Chapters 1.1.4. and X.X.X. of the *Aquatic Manual*, has been in place for at least the past 2 years without detection of *Bonamia ostreae*.

Article 3.1.1.6.

Maintenance of free status

A country, *zone* or *compartment* that is declared free from *Bonamia ostreae* following the provisions of points 1) or 2) of Articles 3.1.1.4. or 3.1.1.5., as relevant, may maintain its status as *Bonamia ostreae* free provided that *basic biosecurity conditions* are continuously maintained.

A country, *zone* or *compartment* that is declared free from *Bonamia ostreae* following the provisions of point 3) of Articles 3.1.1.4. or 3.1.1.5., as relevant, may discontinue *targeted surveillance* and maintain its status as *Bonamia ostreae* free provided that conditions that are conducive to clinical expression of infection with *Bonamia ostreae*, as described in Chapter X.X.X. of the *Aquatic Manual*, exist and *basic biosecurity conditions* are continuously maintained.

However, for declared free *zones* or *compartments* in infected countries and in all cases where conditions are not conducive to clinical expression of infection with *Bonamia ostreae*, *targeted surveillance* needs to be continued at a level determined by the *Competent Authority* on the basis of the likelihood of reinfection.

Article 3.1.1.7.

Importation of live animals from a country, zone or compartment declared free from *Bonamia ostreae*

When importing live *aquatic animals* of the species referred to in Article 3.1.1.2. from a country, *zone* or *compartment* declared free from *Bonamia ostreae*, the *Competent Authority* of the *importing country* should require an *international aquatic animal health certificate* issued by the *Competent Authority* of the *exporting country* or a *certifying official* approved by the *importing country*.

This certificate must certify, on the basis of the procedures described in Articles 3.1.1.4. or 3.1.1.5. (as applicable), whether the place of production of the consignment is a country, *zone* or *compartment* declared free from *Bonamia ostreae*.

The certificate shall should be in accordance with the Model Certificate in Appendix 6.3.1.

This Article does not apply to *commodities* referred to in point 1) of Article 3.1.1.3.

Article 3.1.1.8.

Importation of live animals for aquaculture from a country, zone or compartment not declared free from *Bonamia ostreae*

When importing, for *aquaculture*, *aquatic animals* of the species referred to in Article 3.1.1.2. from a country, zone or compartment not declared free from *Bonamia ostreae*, the *Competent Authority* of the *importing country* should assess the risk and apply risk mitigation measures such as:

1. the consignment is delivered directly into and held in *quarantine* facilities; and
2. the imported *aquatic animals* are continuously isolated from the local environment; and
3. all effluent and waste material from the processing are treated in a manner that ensures inactivation of *Bonamia ostreae*.

This Article does not apply to *commodities* referred to in point 1) of Article 3.1.1.3.

Article 3.1.1.9.

Importation of live animals for processing for human consumption from a country, zone or compartment not declared free from *Bonamia ostreae*

When importing, for processing for human consumption, *aquatic animals* of the species referred to in Article 3.1.1.2. from a country, zone or compartment not declared free from *Bonamia ostreae*, the *Competent Authority* of the *importing country* should require that:

1. the consignment is delivered directly to and held in *quarantine* facilities until processing and/or consumption; and
2. all effluent and waste material from the processing are treated in a manner that ensures inactivation of *Bonamia ostreae*.

This Article does not apply to *commodities* referred to in point 1) of Article 3.1.1.3.

Article 3.1.1.10.

Importation of products from a country, zone or compartment declared free from *Bonamia ostreae*

When importing *aquatic animal products* of the species referred to in Article 3.1.1.2. from a country, zone or compartment free from *Bonamia ostreae*, the *Competent Authority* of the *importing country* should require that the consignment be accompanied by an *international aquatic animal health certificate* issued by the *Competent Authority* of the *exporting country* or a *certifying official* approved by the *importing country*.

This certificate must certify, on the basis of the procedures described in Articles 3.1.1.4. or 3.1.1.5. (as applicable), whether or not the place of production of the consignment is a country, zone or compartment declared free from *Bonamia ostreae*.

The certificate ~~shall~~ should be in accordance with the Model Certificate in Appendix 6.3.2.

This Article does not apply to *commodities* listed in point 1) of Article 3.1.1.3.

Article 3.1.1.11.

Importation of products from a country, zone or compartment not declared free from *Bonamia ostreae*

When importing *aquatic animal products* of the species referred to in Article 3.1.1.2. from a country, zone or compartment not declared free from *Bonamia ostreae*, the *Competent Authority* of the *importing country* should assess the risk and apply appropriate risk mitigation measures.

This Article does not apply to *commodities* referred to in point 1) of Article 3.1.1.3.